

HOUSE BILL 1899

By Weaver

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 5, relative to teacher licensure.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-106, is amended by adding the following:

(h)

(1) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, except as provided in subdivision (h)(2), and before a teacher's temporary permit issued pursuant to this section expires, the teacher may apply to the department of education for a practitioner license to continue teaching the course or subject area taught pursuant to the teacher's temporary permit. The department shall approve a teacher's application for a practitioner license to continue teaching the course or subject area taught pursuant to the teacher's temporary permit if the teacher:

(A) Holds a valid temporary teaching permit;

(B) Earned an overall performance designation of "at expectations," "above expectations," or "significantly above expectations" on the teacher's most recent evaluation pursuant to § 49-1-302; and

(C) Provides a letter from the director of schools or from the director of the public charter school at which the teacher taught pursuant to the teacher's temporary permit recommending that the teacher receive a practitioner license to continue teaching the course or subject area taught pursuant to the teacher's temporary permit.

(2) A teacher who holds a temporary permit issued pursuant to this section must not receive a practitioner license pursuant to subdivision (h)(1) to teach or continue teaching:

(A) A physical education class required under § 49-6-1021(e);

(B) A course for which an end-of-course examination is required, in accordance with § 49-6-6006; or

(C) A special education course.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.